

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Secretary
Legal Affairs Division

Expedited Penalty Agreement
(LAC 33:I.801, 803, 805, and 807) (OS054)

Under the authority of the Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., the secretary gives notice that rulemaking procedures have been initiated to adopt the Office of the Secretary regulations, LAC 33:I.801, 803, 805, and 807 (Log #OS054).

Delays in enforcement actions reduce the effectiveness of the department, unnecessarily utilize resources, and slow down the enforcement process. In the past three years, the department has received 8,139 referrals and has issued 4,259 actions. Current budget and resource issues pose a danger of imminent impairment to the department's ability to address minor and moderate violations. This rule will provide an alternative penalty assessment mechanism that the department may utilize, at its discretion, to expedite penalty agreements in appropriate cases. The department issued an emergency rule to set up a pilot program for the process on March 10, 2004. The department has determined, through data gathered during the pilot program, that the trial period should end and a permanent program for assessing expedited penalties (XPs) should be established. The report to the Governor by the Advisory Task Force on Funding and Efficiency of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality recommended this action as a pilot program. The legislature approved the report and passed Act 1196 in the 2003 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature allowing the department to promulgate rules for the program. This rule formalizes the directive set forth in Act 1196. The basis and rationale for this proposed rule are to abate the delay in correcting minor and moderate violations of the Environmental Quality Act to achieve expeditious protection of public health and the environment.

This proposed rule meets an exception listed in R.S. 30:2019(D)(2) and R.S. 49:953(G)(3); therefore, no report regarding environmental/health benefits and social/economic costs is required. This proposed rule has no known impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

A public hearing will be held on October 25, 2006, at 1:30 p.m. in the Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Conference Room, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on the proposed amendments. Should individuals with a disability need an accommodation in order to participate, contact Judith A. Schuerman, Ph.D., at the address given below or at (225) 219-3550. Parking in the Galvez Garage is free with a validated parking ticket.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed regulation. Persons commenting should reference this proposed regulation by OS054. Such comments must be received no later than November 1, 2006, at 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to Judith A. Schuerman, Ph.D., Office of the Secretary, Legal Affairs Division, Box 4302, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4302 or to FAX (225) 219-3582 or by e-mail to judith.schuerman@la.gov. Copies of this proposed regulation can be purchased by contacting the DEQ Public Records Center at (225) 219-3168. Check or money order is required in advance for each copy of OS054. This regulation is available on the Internet at www.deq.louisiana.gov under Rules and Regulations.

This proposed regulation is available for inspection at the following DEQ office locations from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.: 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; 1823 Highway 546, West Monroe, LA 71292; State Office Building, 1525 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71101; 1301 Gadwall Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615; 111 New Center Drive, Lafayette, LA 70508; 110 Barataria Street, Lockport, LA 70374; 645 N. Lotus Drive, Suite C, Mandeville, LA 70471.

Herman Robinson, CPM
Executive Counsel

Title 33**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY****Part I. Office of the Secretary****Subpart 1. Departmental Administrative Procedures****Chapter 8. Expedited Penalty Agreement****§801. Definitions**

Agency Interest Number—a site-specific number assigned to a facility by the department that identifies the facility in a distinct geographical location.

Expedited Penalty Agreement—a predetermined penalty assessment issued by the department and agreed to by the respondent, which identifies violations of minor or moderate gravity as determined by LAC 33:I.705, caused or allowed by the respondent and occurring on specified dates, in accordance with R.S. 30:2025(D).

LPDES General Permit—for the purposes of this Chapter, any Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit in the LAG530000, LAG540000, LAG750000, LAR050000, or LAR100000 series.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular R.S. 30:2025(D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Secretary, Legal Affairs Division, LR 33:**.

§803. Purpose

- A. The purpose of this Chapter is to provide an alternative penalty assessment mechanism that the department may utilize, at its discretion, to expedite penalty assessments in appropriate cases. This Chapter:
1. addresses common violations of minor or moderate gravity;
 2. quantifies and assesses penalty amounts for common violations in a consistent, fair, and equitable manner;
 3. ensures that the penalty amounts are appropriate, in consideration of the nine factors listed in R.S. 30:2025(E)(3)(a);
 4. eliminates economic incentives for noncompliance for common minor and/or moderate violations; and
 5. ensures expeditious compliance with environmental regulations.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular R.S. 30:2025(D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Secretary, Legal Affairs Division, LR 33:**.

§805. Applicability

A. **Limit of Penalty Amount.** The total penalty assessed for the expedited penalty agreement shall not exceed \$1,500 for one violation or \$3,000 for two or more violations.

B. **Departmental Discretion.** The secretary of the department or his designee, at his sole discretion, may propose an expedited penalty agreement for any violation described in LAC 33:I.807.A and

considered in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. The expedited penalty agreement shall specify that the respondent waives any right to an adjudicatory hearing or judicial review regarding violations identified in the signed expedited penalty agreement. The respondent must concur with and sign the expedited penalty agreement in order to be governed by this Chapter and R.S. 30:2025(D).

C. Notification to the Respondent. The expedited penalty agreement shall serve as notification to the respondent of the assessed penalty amount for the violations identified on the specified dates.

D. Certification by the Respondent. By signing the expedited penalty agreement, the respondent certifies that all cited violations in the expedited penalty agreement have been or will be corrected, and that the assessed penalty amount has been or will be paid, within 30 days of receipt of the expedited penalty agreement.

E. Nine Factors for Consideration. An expedited penalty agreement may be used only when the following criteria for the nine factors for consideration listed in R.S. 30:2025(E)(3)(a) are satisfied.

1. The History of Previous Violations or Repeated Noncompliance. The violation identified in the expedited penalty agreement is not the same as or similar to a violation that occurred within the previous two years at the facility under the same agency interest number, and that was identified in any compliance order, penalty assessment, settlement agreement, or expedited penalty agreement issued to the respondent by the department. Site-specific enforcement history considerations will only apply to expedited penalty agreements.

2. The Nature and Gravity of the Violation. The violation identified is considered to be minor or moderate with regard to its nature and gravity.

a. The violation identified in the expedited penalty agreement deviates somewhat from the requirements of statutes, regulations, or permit; however, the violation exhibits at least substantial implementation of the requirements.

b. The violation identified is isolated in occurrence and limited in duration.

c. The violation is easily identifiable and corrected.

d. The respondent concurs with the violation identified and agrees to correct the violation identified and any damages caused or allowed by the identified violation within 30 days of receipt of the expedited penalty agreement.

3. The Gross Revenues Generated by the Respondent. By signing the expedited penalty agreement, the respondent agrees that sufficient gross revenues exist to pay the assessed penalty and correct the violation identified in the expedited penalty agreement within 30 days of receipt of the expedited penalty agreement.

4. The Degree of Culpability, Recalcitrance, Defiance, or Indifference to Regulations or Orders. The respondent is culpable for the violation identified, but has not shown recalcitrance, defiance, or extreme indifference to regulations or orders. Willingness to sign an expedited penalty agreement and correct the identified violation within the specified time frame demonstrates respect for the regulations and a willingness to comply.

5. The Monetary Benefits Realized Through Noncompliance. The respondent's monetary benefit from noncompliance for the violation identified shall be considered. The intent of these regulations is to eliminate economic incentives for noncompliance.

6. The Degree of Risk to Human Health or Property Caused by the Violation. The violation identified does not present actual harm or substantial risk of harm to the environment or public health. The violation identified is isolated in occurrence or administrative in nature, and the violation identified has no measurable detrimental effect on the environment or public health.

7. Whether the Noncompliance or Violation and the Surrounding Circumstances Were Immediately Reported to the Department and Whether the Violation or Noncompliance Was Concealed or There Was an Attempt to Conceal by the Person Charged. Depending upon the type of violation, failure to report may or may not be applicable to this factor. If the respondent concealed or attempted to conceal any violation, the violation shall not qualify for consideration under these regulations.

8. Whether the Person Charged Has Failed to Mitigate or to Make a Reasonable Attempt to Mitigate the Damages Caused by the Noncompliance or Violation. By signing the expedited penalty agreement, the respondent states that the violation identified and the resulting damages, if any, have been or will be corrected. Violations considered for expedited penalty agreements are, by nature, easily identified and corrected. Damages caused by any violation identified are expected to be nonexistent or minimal.

9. The Costs of Bringing and Prosecuting an Enforcement Action, Such as Staff Time, Equipment Use, Hearing Records, and Expert Assistance. Enforcement costs for the expedited penalty agreement are considered minimal. Enforcement costs for individual violations are covered with the penalty amount set forth for each violation in LAC 33:I.807.

F. Schedule. The respondent must return the signed expedited penalty agreement and payment for the assessed amount to the department within 30 days of the respondent's receipt of the expedited penalty agreement. If the department has not received the signed expedited penalty agreement and payment for the assessed amount by the close of business on the thirtieth day after the respondent's receipt of the expedited penalty agreement, the expedited penalty agreement may be withdrawn at the department's discretion.

G. Extensions. If the department determines that compliance with the cited violation is technically infeasible or impracticable within the initial 30-day period for compliance, the department, at its discretion, may grant additional time in order for the respondent to correct the violation cited in the expedited penalty agreement.

H. Additional Rights of the Department

1. If the respondent signs the expedited penalty agreement, but fails to correct the violation identified, pay the assessed amount, or correct any damages caused or allowed by the cited violation within the specified time frame, the department may issue additional enforcement actions, including but not limited to, a civil penalty assessment, and may take any other action authorized by law to enforce the terms of the expedited penalty agreement.

2. If the respondent does not agree to and sign the expedited penalty agreement, the department shall consider the respondent notified that a formal civil penalty is under consideration. The department may then pursue formal enforcement action against the respondent in accordance with R.S. 30:2025(C), 2025(E), 2050.2, and 2050.3.

I. Required Documentation. The department shall not propose any expedited penalty agreement without an affidavit, inspection report, or other documentation to establish that the respondent has caused or allowed the violation to occur on the specified dates.

J. Evidentiary Requirements. Any expedited penalty agreement issued by the department shall notify the respondent of the evidence used to establish that the respondent has caused or allowed the violation to occur on the specified dates.

K. Public Enforcement List. The signed expedited penalty agreement is a final enforcement action of the department and shall be included on the public list of enforcement actions referenced in R.S. 30:2050.1(B)(1).

L. Date of Issuance. When an expedited penalty agreement is issued in conjunction with a Notice of Potential Penalty, the issuance date shall be the date on the document of initial signature by the administrative authority.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular R.S. 30:2025(D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Secretary, Legal Affairs Division, LR 33:**.

§807. Types of Violations and Expedited Penalty Amounts

A. The types of violations listed in the following table may qualify for coverage under this Chapter; however, any violation listed below, which is identified in an expedited penalty agreement, must also meet the conditions set forth in LAC 33:I.805.E.

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
ALL MEDIA			
Failure to provide timely notification for the unauthorized discharge of any material that exceeds the reportable quantity but does not cause an emergency condition.	LAC 33:I.3917.A	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure to provide prompt notification of any unauthorized discharge that results in the contamination of the groundwaters of the state or that otherwise moves in, into, within, or on any saturated subsurface strata in accordance with LAC 33:I.3923.	LAC 33:I.3919.A	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure to provide timely written notification of the unauthorized discharge of any material that exceeds the reportable quantity but does not cause an emergency condition.	LAC 33:I.3925.A	\$500	Per occurrence
AIR QUALITY			
40 CFR Part 70 General Permit conditions (Part K, L, M, or R): Failure to timely submit any applicable annual, semiannual, or quarterly reports.	LAC 33:III.501.C.4	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure to submit an Annual Criteria Pollutant Emissions Inventory in a timely and complete manner when applicable.	LAC 33:III.919	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure to submit an Annual Toxic Emissions Data Inventory in a timely and complete manner when applicable.	LAC 33:III.5107	\$500	Per occurrence
Control of Fugitive Emissions, sandblasting facilities: Failure to take all reasonable precautions to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne.	LAC 33:III.1305.A	\$250	Per occurrence

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to provide notice of change of ownership within 45 days after the change.	LAC 33:III.517.G	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to timely submit any applicable Specific Condition or General Condition report as specified in a minor source permit.	LAC 33:III.501.C.4	\$250	Per occurrence
Failure to timely submit any applicable Specific Condition or General Condition report (other than those specified elsewhere in this Section) as specified in a Part 70 (Title V) air permit.	LAC 33:III.501.C.4	\$350	Per occurrence
Failure to submit an updated Emission Point List, Emissions Inventory Questionnaire (EIQ), emissions calculations, and certification statement as described in LAC 33:III.517.B.1 within seven calendar days after effecting any modification to a facility authorized to operate under a standard oil and gas permit.	LAC 33:III.501.C.4	\$750	Per occurrence/ emission point
Failure to submit the Title V permit renewal application at least six months prior to the date of expiration, applicable only when the renewal application is submitted prior to permit expiration and a renewal permit is issued on or before the expiration date.	LAC 33:III.507.E.4	\$1,000	Per occurrence
Failure to maintain records for glycol dehydrators subject to LAC 33:III.2116.	LAC 33:III.2116.F	\$250	Per occurrence
Failure to submit an initial perchloroethylene inventory report.	LAC 33:III.5307.A	\$250	Per occurrence
Failure to submit a perchloroethylene usage report by July 1 for the preceding calendar year.	LAC 33:III.5307.B	\$250	Per occurrence
Stage II Vapor Recovery			
Note: LAC 33:III.2132 is only applicable to subject gasoline dispensing facilities in the parishes of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and Pointe Coupee.			

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to submit an application to the administrative authority prior to installation of the Stage II vapor recovery system.	LAC 33:III.2132.B.6	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure to have at least one person trained as required by the regulations.	LAC 33:III.2132.C	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure to test the vapor recovery system prior to start-up of the facility and annually thereafter.	LAC 33:III.2132.D	\$750	Per occurrence
Failure to post operating instructions on each pump.	LAC 33:III.2132.E	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure to maintain equipment and tag defective equipment "out of order."	LAC 33:III.2132.F.1 and 3-4	\$500	Per inspection
Failure to perform daily inspections and accurately record results.	LAC 33:III.2132.F.2	\$300	Per inspection
Failure to maintain records on-site for at least two years and present them to an authorized representative upon request.	LAC 33:III.2132.G.1-7	\$300	Per compliance inspection
Failure to use and/or diligently maintain, in proper working order, all air pollution control equipment installed at the site.	LAC 33:III.905	\$100	Per occurrence
HAZARDOUS WASTE			
Used Oil			
Failure of a used oil generator to stop, contain, clean up, and/or manage a release of used oil, and/or repair or replace leaking used oil containers or tanks prior to returning them to service.	LAC 33:V.4013.E	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure of a used oil transfer facility to stop, contain, clean up, and/or manage a release of used oil, and/or repair or replace leaking used oil containers or tanks prior to returning them to service.	LAC 33:V.4035.H	\$500	Per occurrence

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure of a used oil processor or re-refiner to stop, contain, clean up, and/or manage a release of used oil, and/or repair or replace leaking used oil containers or tanks prior to returning them to service.	LAC 33:V.4049.G	\$500	Per occurrence
Failure of a used oil burner to stop, contain, clean up, and/or manage a release of used oil, and/or repair or replace leaking used oil containers or tanks prior to returning them to service.	LAC 33:V.4069.G	\$500	Per occurrence
SOLID WASTE			
Failure to report any discharge, deposit, injection, spill, dumping, leaking, or placing of solid waste into or on the water, air, or land.	LAC 33:VII.315.K	\$500	Per occurrence
Waste Tires			
Storage of more than 20 whole tires without authorization from the administrative authority.	LAC 33:VII.10509.B	\$200	Per occurrence
Transporting more than 20 tires without first obtaining a transporter authorization certificate.	LAC 33:VII.10509.C	\$200	Per occurrence
Storing tires for greater than 365 days.	LAC 33:VII.10509.E	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to maintain all required records for three years on-site or at an alternative site approved in writing by the administrative authority.	LAC 33:VII.10509.G	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to obtain a waste tire generator identification number within 30 days of commencing business operations.	LAC 33:VII.10519.A	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure to accept one waste tire for every new tire sold unless the purchaser chooses to keep the waste tire.	LAC 33:VII.10519.B	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure to remit waste tire fees to the state on a monthly basis as specified.	LAC 33:VII.10519.D	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure to post required notifications to the public.	LAC 33:VII.10519.E	\$100	Per occurrence

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to list the waste tire fee on a separate line on the invoice so that no tax will be charged on the fee.	LAC 33:VII.10519.F	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure to keep waste tires or waste tire material covered as specified.	LAC 33:VII.10519.H	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to segregate waste tires from new or used tires offered for sale.	LAC 33:VII.10519.M	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to provide a manifest for all waste tire shipments containing more than 20 tires.	LAC 33:VII.10533.A	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to maintain completed manifests for three years and have them available for inspection.	LAC 33:VII.10533.D	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to collect appropriate waste tire fee for each new tire sold.	LAC 33:VII.10519.C, 10535.B	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to submit application and fees for transporter authorization.	LAC 33:VII.10523.A	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure to use a manifest when transporting greater than 20 waste tires.	LAC 33:VII.10523.C	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure of transporter to transport all waste tires to an authorized collection center or a permitted processing facility.	LAC 33:VII.10523.D	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure of out-of-state or out-of-country transporter to comply with state waste tire regulations.	LAC 33:VII.10523.E	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure to provide notification in writing within 10 days when any information on the authorization certificate form changes, or if the business closes and ceases transporting waste tires.	LAC 33:VII.10523.G	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure by a collector or collection center to follow the requirements for receipt of tires.	LAC 33:VII.10527.A	\$200	Per occurrence
Failure of collection center operator to meet the standards in LAC 33:VII.10525.D.1-10 and 12-24.	LAC 33:VII.10527.B	\$300	Per occurrence

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure of recycler to provide notification of its existence and obtain an identification number.	LAC 33:VII.10531.A	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure of waste tire or waste tire material recycler to meet the requirements of LAC 33:VII.10525.D.	LAC 33:VII.10531.B	\$300	Per occurrence
Failure to follow the requirements for manifest discrepancies.	LAC 33:VII.10533.C	\$300	Per occurrence
WATER QUALITY			
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG530000 Schedule A permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$200 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	10 or fewer violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG530000 Schedule A permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$400 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	More than 10 violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG530000 Schedule B permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$300 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	10 or fewer violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG530000 Schedule B permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	More than 10 violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG540000 permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$400 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	10 or fewer violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG540000 permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$600 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	More than 10 violations

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG750000 permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$400 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	10 or fewer violations
Failure to comply with any portion(s) of an LPDES LAG750000 permit.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$600 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	More than 10 violations
Failure to develop and/or implement a Spill Prevention and Control Plan (SPC):			
1. Failing to develop an SPC plan for any applicable facility.	LAC 33:IX.905	\$500	Per occurrence
2. Failing to implement any component of an SPC plan.	LAC 33:IX.905	\$100	Per occurrence
Failure to submit certain reports as required by any LPDES permit not previously defined as an LPDES General Permit in LAC 33:I.801, including noncompliance reports, storm water reports, pretreatment reports, biomonitoring reports, overflow reports, construction schedule progress reports, environmental audit reports as required by a municipal pollution prevention plan, and toxicity reduction evaluation reports.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$300	Per required submittal
Failure to prepare and/or implement any portion or portions of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP), or Best Management Practices/Plan (BMP) as required by any LPDES permit not previously defined as an LPDES General Permit in LAC 33:I.801.	LAC 33:IX.2701.A	\$500	Per occurrence

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to submit a Notice of Intent for coverage under the LAR050000 or LAR100000 LPDES Storm Water General Permit.	LAC 33:IX.2511.C.1	\$1,000	Per occurrence
Unauthorized discharge of oil field wastes, including produced water.	LAC 33:IX.1901.A	\$1,000	Per occurrence
Unauthorized discharge of oily fluids.	LAC 33:IX.1701.B	\$1,000	Per occurrence
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS			
Failure to register an existing or new UST containing a regulated substance.	LAC 33:XI.301.A-B	\$300	Per inspection
Failure to certify and provide required information on the department's approved registration form.	LAC 33:XI.301.B.1-2	\$300	Per inspection
Failure to provide notification within 30 days after selling a UST system or acquiring a UST system; failure to keep a current copy of the registration form on-site or at the nearest staffed facility.	LAC 33:XI.301.C.1-3	\$300	Per inspection
Failure to provide corrosion protection to tanks that routinely contain regulated substances using one of the specified methods.	LAC 33:XI.303.B.1	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to provide corrosion protection to piping that routinely contains regulated substances using one of the specified methods.	LAC 33:XI.303.B.2	\$250 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to provide corrosion protection to flex hoses and/or sub-pumps that routinely contain regulated substances using one of the specified methods.	LAC 33:XI.303.B.2	\$100 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to provide spill and/or overfill prevention equipment as specified.	LAC 33:XI.303.B.3	\$300 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to upgrade an existing UST system to new system standards as specified.	LAC 33:XI.303.C	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to pay fees by the required date.	LAC 33:XI.307.D	\$200	Per inspection
Failure to report, investigate, and/or clean up any spill and overfill.	LAC 33:XI.501.C	\$1,500	Per inspection
Failure to continuously operate and maintain corrosion protection to the metal components of portions of the tank and piping that routinely contain regulated substances and are in contact with the ground or water.	LAC 33:XI.503.A.1	\$300 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to have a UST system equipped with a cathodic protection system inspected for proper operation as specified.	LAC 33:XI.503.A.2	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to inspect a UST system with an impressed current cathodic protection system every 60 days to ensure that the equipment is running properly.	LAC 33:XI.503.A.3	\$300 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to comply with recordkeeping requirements.	LAC 33:XI.503.B	\$200 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to meet requirements for repairs to UST systems.	LAC 33:XI.507	\$300	Per inspection
Failure to follow reporting requirements, maintain required information, and/or keep records at the UST site and make them immediately available or keep them at an alternative site and provide them after a request.	LAC 33:XI.509	\$300 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection

Expedited Penalties			
Violation	Citation	Amount	Frequency
Failure to meet the performance requirements when performing release detection required in LAC 33:XI.703.	LAC 33:XI.701	\$750 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to use a method or combination of methods of release detection described in LAC 33:XI.701 for all new or existing tank systems.	LAC 33:XI.703.A.1	\$1,500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to satisfy the additional requirements for petroleum UST systems as specified.	LAC 33:XI.703.B	\$350 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to maintain release detection records.	LAC 33:XI.705	\$200 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to report any suspected release within 24 hours after becoming aware of the occurrence or when a leak detection method indicates that a release may have occurred.	LAC 33:XI.703.A.2 or 707	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per occurrence
Failure to investigate and confirm any suspected release of a regulated substance that requires reporting under LAC 33:XI.707 within seven days.	LAC 33:XI.711	\$1,500	Per occurrence
Failure to maintain corrosion protection and/or release detection on a UST system that is temporarily closed and contains more than 2.5 cm (1 inch) of residue, or 0.3 percent by weight of the total capacity of the UST system.	LAC 33:XI.903.A	\$500 and completion of a department-sponsored compliance class	Per inspection
Failure to comply with permanent closure and/or changes in service procedures.	LAC 33:XI.905	\$500	Per inspection

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular R.S. 30:2025(D).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Secretary, Legal Affairs Division, LR 33:**.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

LOG #: OS054

Person
Preparing
Statement:

Toni Evans Dept.: Environmental Quality

Phone: 225-219-3719

Office: Office of Environmental
Compliance

Return
Address: P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Rule
Title: Expedited Penalty Agreement
(LAC 33:I. 801, 803, 805, and 807)

Date Rule
Takes Effect: Upon Promulgation

SUMMARY

(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The pilot Expedited Penalty Agreement program has produced a significant decrease in the backlog of enforcement action referrals for the categories of violations this proposed rule addresses. Many of the enforcement referrals for minor and moderate violations were not previously addressed in a timely manner due to more complex enforcement issues taking precedence. The ability to address these classes of violations with the expedited enforcement process has resulted in savings in staff time and paperwork for this department.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

No significant effect on revenue will occur as a result of this proposed rule. The violations addressed by the expedited enforcement process are for minor to moderate class violations. The expedited enforcement process is designed to assess lower penalties for specific violations and bring about compliance promptly.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

No new costs will occur as a result of this proposed rule. The expedited enforcement process could benefit regulated entities by reducing staff time and cost due to a reduction in paperwork response and legal fees addressing formal enforcement actions, thereby making available more time and funds for compliance with environmental violations.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

No effect on competition or employment will result from this proposed rule.

Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

Herman Robinson, CPM, Executive Counsel
Typed Name and Title of Agency Head or Designee

Date of Signature

Date of Signature

LFO 03/09/2001

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is requested in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule will abate delays in correcting minor and moderate violations of the Environmental Quality Act. Delays in enforcement reduce the effectiveness of the department, unnecessarily utilize resources, and slow down the enforcement process. In the past three years alone, the Enforcement Division has received 8,139 referrals and has issued 4,259 actions. Current budget and resource issues pose a danger of imminent impairment to the department's ability to address minor and moderate violations. This proposed rule will provide an alternative penalty assessment mechanism that the department may utilize, at its discretion, to create expedited penalty agreements (XPs) in appropriate cases. The department issued an emergency rule to set up a pilot program for the process on March 10, 2004. The department has determined, through data gathered during the pilot program, that the trial period should end and a permanent program for assessing XPs should be established.

- B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The report to the Governor by the Advisory Task Force on Funding and Efficiency of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality recommended this action as a pilot program. The legislature approved the report and passed Act 1196 in the 2003 Regular Session allowing the department to promulgate rules for the program. This rule formalizes the directive set forth in the Act.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session
(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No increase in the expenditure of funds should occur.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) ____ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) ____ No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

This question is not applicable.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT WORKSHEET

I. **A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED**

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY08-09
PERSONAL SERVICES	-0-	-0-	-0-
OPERATING EXPENSES	-0-	-0-	-0-
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	-0-	-0-	-0-
OTHER CHARGES	-0-	-0-	-0-
EQUIPMENT	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR	-0-	-0-	-0-
POSITIONS (#)	-0-	-0-	-0-

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

The pilot Expedited Penalty Agreement program has produced a significant decrease in the backlog of enforcement action referrals for the categories of violations this proposed rule addresses. Many prior enforcement referrals for minor and moderate violations had not been addressed in a timely manner due to more complex enforcement issues taking precedence. The ability to address these classes of violations with expedited penalty agreements has resulted in savings in staff time and paperwork.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY08-09
STATE GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	-0-	-0-	-0-
DEDICATED	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS	-0-	-0-	-0-
OTHER (Specify)	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

The department has sufficient funding to implement the proposed rule.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

The percentage of total penalties going to local government is relatively small. The expedited enforcement process could benefit regulated entities by reducing staff time and cost due to a reduction in paperwork response and legal fees addressing formal enforcement actions, thereby making available more time and funds for compliance with environmental violations.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

Funding sources for environmental management may experience a slight savings due to the reduction of personnel time spent on paperwork responding to formal enforcement actions.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**WORKSHEET****II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS**

- A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY08-09
STATE GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	-0-	-0-	-0-
RESTRICTED FUNDS*	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS	-0-	-0-	-0-
LOCAL FUNDS	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

- B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

The increase in revenue is not significant. Expedited penalty agreements do not impose high-value penalties, but have a higher rate of collection. The increase experienced is of value, though, because without the program it is very likely the violations would not have been addressed.

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

A slight decrease in cost could be experienced by affected persons and nongovernmental groups. The expedited enforcement process could benefit regulated entities by reducing staff time in paperwork response and legal fees addressing formal enforcement actions for minor violations.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

Savings could be realized by those regulated entities that commit minor environmental violations resulting in expedited penalty agreements. The expedited

penalties are, in most cases, lower than formal penalties. To the extent that penalty and administrative costs to private enterprises are decreased, their net income could be increased.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

No effect on competition or employment will result from this proposed rule.